

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

September 24, 2012

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education
From: Joshua P. Starr, Superintendent of Schools
Subject: National Disability Awareness Month—October 2012

WHEREAS, October is *National Disability Awareness Month* in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools is committed to ensuring that every child has the opportunity to succeed in a school system where academic success is not predictable by race, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, language proficiency, or disability; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools provides high-quality professional development opportunities to all staff members in an effort to narrow the achievement gap between students with disabilities and their nondisabled peers; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools promotes the use of appropriate technology and Universal Design for Learning strategies that enhance the academic success of students with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools, as part of *National Disability Awareness Month*, recognizes the importance of embracing inclusive practices and policies that promote the benefits of a diverse workforce that includes workers with disabilities, who represent a highly motivated and talented workforce pool; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools is committed to preparing students with disabilities to be career and college ready to gain access and fully participate in a quality of life comparable to their nondisabled peers; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools is committed to collaborating with families to support student academic success and social-emotional wellness; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools is committed to engaging families and community partners to promote, provide and foster the full participation of individuals with disabilities in the workforce; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools endorses full participation for people with disabilities in all environments; now therefore be it

Resolved, that the Montgomery County Board of Education and the superintendent of schools declare the month of October as *National Disability Awareness Month* in Montgomery County Public Schools and encourage staff members in schools to sponsor activities in honor of its recognition.

JPS:ra